

REMARKS

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable in view of Niida et al. (Journal of Experimental Medicine, 190(2):293-298, 1999). In view of the present claim amendments, which incorporate the limitations of claims 11 and 13, the § 103 rejections may now be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 10, 11, 13, and 15-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 1, 10, 11, 13, and 15-18 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite and failing to distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Applicants have addressed both rejections by removing the phrases “bone turnover” and “bone turnover activity” from claims 1 and 16. In view of these amendments, Applicants request withdrawal of these rejections.

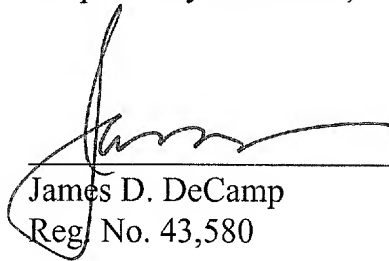
CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is hereby respectfully requested.

If there are any charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,

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James D. DeCamp
Reg. No. 43,580

Clark & Elbing LLP
101 Federal Street
Boston, MA 02110
Telephone: 617-428-0200
Facsimile: 617-428-7045